

SARA II QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

January 1 – March 31, 2002

This report covers the second quarter of FY 2002, namely, the period January 1 – March 31, 2002. It follows the SARA FY 02 work plan for the period October 1, 2001 – September 30, 2002.

SARA II is a service project. As such, it is responsive to the Africa region's needs, and USAID and REDSO requests channeled through AFR/SD/HRD, so additional activities may gain priority from time to time as discussed in the Work Plan.

Activities as found in the work plan are listed in bold.

SO 18: Adopt policies and strategies for increased sustainability, efficiency and equity of basic education services

1. Assist the AFR/SD/HRD SO 18 team

- **Participate in SO 18 core team meetings**
- **Assist in the implementn of the research agenda**
- **Assist team in annual reporting;**
- **Assist in revising the new educ framework**
- **Assist in disseminating information on key issues**

Expected Outputs:

- Weekly team meetings attended
- Study on NGOs produced
- Community school review produced
- Annual reporting reviewed
- Presentations on key education issues or findings made

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Team meetings attended; annual program reviews conducted; technical input provided on specific developing programs Community school review was finalized and findings were presented at the CIES conference in March.

2. Support ADEA working group by participating in ADEA teacher working group meetings

Expected Outputs:

- Report on proceedings

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

3. Promote knowledge and guidance of priority issues in research and analysis and professional settings:

- **Participate in CIES**
- **Participate in NGO conferences**
- **Support presentation of NGO case studies in African for a**
- **Participate in USAID/SD/ED biannual exchange in Africa**

Expected Outputs:

- Presentation made at CIES on NGO study & community schools
- Africa Liaison Program Initiative conference in Africa or UNESCO collective consultation on NGOs conference attended
- NGO findings in education forums in Africa presented by 3 African researchers
- BEE organized & panels set up

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Panel was organized and conducted at the CIES Conference on the role of NGOs in basic education in Africa. Country specific findings for Mali and Ethiopia were also presented at CIES by an African researcher and USAID mission representative. Yolande Miller-Grandvaux, SARA Basic Education Advisor, designed and organized one of the Basic Education Exchange (BEE) streams on alternative education, including distance education and community schooling.

4. Provide knowledge and guidance on role and responsibilities of NGOs in education as part of the SD/Ed Analytic Agenda

- **Disseminate to missions, policy-makers, NGOs**
- **Prepare for consultative meeting and participation in other discussion for a**

Expected Outputs:

- Study finalized & documentation completed
- Findings disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Three country specific studies on the role of NGOs were conducted and finalized: Mali, Guinea and Malawi. The comparative analysis is completed as well. The Washington-based advisory group met in January to discuss the findings and use of the results. A repackaging of the study is being undertaken. The findings were also presented at the CIES Conference in March and much discussion was raised on the issues of NGOs in Africa.

5. Produce a road map to help missions who want to partner with NGOs in education

Expected Outputs:

- Power-point presentation on strategies & lessons learned in partnerships with NGOs in education

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

A PowerPoint presentation is currently being developed.

6. Support travel costs of ERNWACA regional coordinator & institutional building costs to ERNWACA

Expected Outputs:

- Contacts established between Regional Coordinator & national coordinators & donors

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Regular contacts are maintained with the regional coordination office. Dr. Yolande Miller-Grandvaux participated in March at ERNWACA's strategic meeting held in Dakar, Senegal, in February, which brought together all the network's coordinators as well as donors. A presentation on institutional sustainability was delivered and discussed at the meeting. Support to the regional coordination office was also reviewed during the coordinator's visit to Washington and at the CIES conference. Contacts were made; meetings were set and conducted to forge potential partnerships with donors and various programs and agencies in Washington.

7. ERNWACA Transnational Study Document (English & French)

Expected Outputs:

- Document produced & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Studies are completed and the dissemination process is underway. The transnational studies are now available in French and in English.

8. Assist AFR/SD/HRD in providing backstopping to Mali USAID mission:

- **Follow-up education policy agenda;**
- **Provide TA when needed;**
- **Monitor activities & assist in developing strategies on a regular basis**

Expected Outputs:

- Education policy strategy updated & monitored
- TA provided.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Regular contact is maintained and TA was provided on identifying and writing success stories, reviewing annual strategy technical components and annual program reviews. TA was also provided for the development of Mali education section of the CSP.

9. Promote knowledge & guidance on education in countries in crisis:

- Identify priority issues & concepts through discussions with partners
- Draft strategic options for interventions & follow up

Expected Outputs:

- Discussions/forum held with partners
- Issues & concept paper produced

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Reviewed healing guide for children out-growing war. No other activities were conducted this quarter.

10. Conduct synthesis of lessons learned from life skills & non-formal HIV/AIDS evaluations

Expected Outputs:

- Synthesis produced & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The review of lifeskills non-formal literature was finalized. It is being reviewed. The second component of the study has been considerably delayed due to poor consultant's performance. It should be completed by the end of next quarter.

11. Conduct a literature review of community schools in Africa:

- Produce a matrix listing models of community schools in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Literature review finalized

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The literature review was finalized and feedback obtained and incorporated in the study. Dissemination of the document will take place next quarter.

12. Conduct a cross –country evaluation of quality of education in community schools:

- Share findings with donors & stakeholders in countries

Expected Outputs:

- Evaluation conducted
- Findings presented & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter. The next priority should actually focus on issues of cost effectiveness and financing of community schools.

13. Assist AFR/SD/HRD in providing backstopping to Benin or other USAID mission:

- Provide TA when needed

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

TA was provided to the Senegal mission for annual reporting, scope of work design in February-March

14. Conduct NGO in education study in South Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Study implemented & finalized

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Research institution was identified and proposal reviewed and approved. The study will be conducted next quarter.

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services

Technical Area: **Household and Community Approaches to Child Health**

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD with issue identification, portfolio management & evaluation

Expected Outputs:

- Meetings with AFR/SD/HRD staff organized
- Core Group meetings organized, expert advice provided
- M & E system functioning
- Results packages updated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The SARA child survival core group met on March 26, 2002, to review overall progress in the work plan. The following topics were particularly addressed: involving private practitioners in child survival activities in Uganda, printing the paper on “Utilizing the potential of private practitioners in child survival”, field testing of the COPE tool for child survival; and involving NGOs in IMCI in West Africa (NGO meeting in Senegal).

In addition, Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones, SARA Project Director, participated in a small one-day meeting in Stockholm with WHO/HQ, USAID/Global (G), the World Bank and DfID to discuss WHO plans to conduct an analytic review of IMCI, to look at IMCI in the more general context of child health.

2. Assist partners in following up on the recommendations of the Joint USAID-DFID review of IMCI in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- USAID –DFID Report disseminated,
- Recommendations considered in IMCI plans

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The joint USAID-DFID report on the IMCI review in Africa has been prepared by SARA. The report includes a recent comprehensive assessment of the three components of IMCI in Africa. It has been based on input from many international partners such as WHO, UNICEF and USAID, and included interviews with staff at headquarters and regional levels. In addition the report includes country-level assessment based on experience from Uganda, Malawi and Mali. SARA had prepared and disseminated the report.

3. Facilitate the design & implementation of consultant training package for household & community IMCI

Expected Outputs:

- Consultant training package developed, field-tested & used

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Suzanne Pryor-Jones continued to coordinate with WHO Headquarters and BASICS WARO in developing the consultant/facilitator training package. The package is being initially developed in French and was tested in February in Benin. The first facilitator training will take place in Mali in Summer 2002. It will be translated/adapted in English after the field testing. The package is expected to assist in expanding the pool of African expertise in supporting the development and expansion of the community IMCI component.

4. Identify & activate a role for SARA in promoting & coordinating malaria in pregnancy

Expected Outputs:

- SARA's role identified, key outputs described & achieved

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA staff continued to support the inter-agency core group on malaria in pregnancy, with SARA working to identify an appropriate dissemination strategy. This quarter, SARA supported the "Technical Meeting on Malaria Prevention and Control During Pregnancy" in Blantyre, Malawi, March 6-8, 2002.

In addition, the SARA team members continue to participate in the quarterly malaria in pregnancy working group meetings. SARA has been asked to produce a user-friendly version of WHO's regional malaria in pregnancy strategy for Africa. This strategy is not yet finalized but Antonia Wolff, SARA Dissemination Specialist, and Caroline Blair, SARA Reproductive Health Advisor, have reviewed the first draft and have discussed this and other potential activities with Mary Ettling at AFR/SD/HRD. Antonia has proposed adding two or three briefs to the Malaria and Pregnancy Press kit. A summary of the regional draft guidelines is now in draft and getting reviewed, and Antonia has proposed two more briefs; one on anemia and the other on issues of HIV within malaria and pregnancy. The last two have not yet been written. SARA, on request of AFR/SD/HRD also traveled to Baltimore to meet with JHPIEGO/MNH staff to provide guidance on how the AFR/SD/HRD funds allocated to JHPIEGO for dissemination activities on malaria in pregnancy could best be used.

Finally, Dr. Sambe Duale, SARA Research Manager and Infectious Diseases Advisor, exchanged calls and e-mails with colleagues of the MNH Project to provide input on participants for the planned workshop on malaria and pregnancy in West African countries held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in March 2002.

5. Promote coordination between C-IMCI & malaria community activities

Expected Outputs:

- SARA participation in regional IMCI- malaria meetings

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA is working with the IMCI and Malaria WHO AFRO staff in the area of engaging private practitioners in both IMCI and Malaria programs. This activity includes coordination between the IMCI and Malaria programs at the regional and selected country levels, e.g., Uganda.

In addition, Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones and Dr. Sambe Duale have continued to work with colleagues from BASICS, the CORE Group and other cooperating agencies on the planning of a regional meeting for NGOs on C-IMCI in West Africa scheduled for April 2002 in Dakar, Senegal.

6. Develop & field test tools to improve access & use of essential drugs at community level

Expected Outputs:

- Community tools developed & tested

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

In collaboration with the Rational Pharmaceutical Management Project (RPM+), SARA is developing a tool for improving access and use of essential drugs at community level. The tool includes two sections: the first is a household survey to identify the selected sources of care for sick children and the pattern of use of issued medicine; the second includes studying the medicine inventory available at the community drug outlets, e.g., pharmacists and drug sellers. The tool been tested in Zambia and will be tested again on a wider scale in Senegal.

7. Assist AFR/SD/HRD in following up on their investments in D-IMCI

Expected Outputs:

TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

8. Participate in IAWG meetings on C-IMCI & follow up on required action

Expected Outputs:

- SARA participation in IAWG meetings
- Increased use of communication for child health promoted with meetings organized & recommendations developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA continued to support the IAWG on community IMCI. Specifically, a brochure is being developed by WHO/HQ, with input from SARA. The brochure will help define and explain C-IMCI to Ministry of Health officials, child survival managers and NGO personnel.

9. Participate in WHO/AFRO, UNICEF, and/or BASICS meetings on IMCI (all components)

Expected Outputs:

- SARA participation in relevant child survival meetings in Africa

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Suzanne Prysor-Jones attended the Global Consultation on Child Health organized by WHO and UNICEF in Stockholm in March. WHO requested her assistance as a WHO resource person and, as such, she moderated an afternoon panel on community participation in child and adolescent health.

10. Support formative research for neonatal care seeking

Expected Outputs:

- Manual on formative research developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Initial protocols developed by AED consultant Nancy Nachbar have been circulated for review.

11. Support the promotion of ALIVE model in selected countries

Expected Outputs:

- ALIVE model integrated into REDUCE
- ALIVE used in Africa

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA staff assisted AED consultant Elisabeth Sommerfelt in putting together a joint ALIVE/REDUCE presentation format this quarter. This will be tested in April in Viet Nam and applied later in the year in Mali and Malawi, and possibly in South Africa with SNL funds.

12. Facilitate the focusing of BASICS WARO on AFR/SD/HRD priorities***Expected Outputs:***

- BASICS WARO work plan support AFR/SD/HRD priorities

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Discussions this quarter centered on the upcoming regional workshop on community IMCI to be held in April. WARO requested that Suzanne Pryor-Jones be chief facilitator at this workshop.

13. Promote linkages between IMCI & breastfeeding & immunization***Expected Outputs:***

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Specific activities have not yet been established.

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services

Technical Area: Provider Performance

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD with issues identification, portfolio management, & evaluation

Expected Outputs:

- SARA staff organize meetings with AFR/SD/HRD staff
- Core Group meetings organized; M & E system functioning; Results packages updated; Review document produced

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA continued its support to AFR/SD/HRD in provider performance issues. Specifically, SARA is taking the lead in addressing the important gap of largely excluding formal and informal private practitioners, an important source of treating sick children, from child survival programs.

2. Complete printing & dissemination of private practitioners paper

Expected Outputs:

- Paper on Private Practitioners printed & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The private practitioners paper is presently being printed.

3. Translate, print & disseminate paper on private practitioners in French

Expected Outputs:

- Paper on Private Practitioners printed & disseminated in French

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

A CTO letter has been developed and the activity will be completed during the next quarter.

4. Disseminate Uganda's experience in involving private practitioners in IMCI

Expected Outputs:

- Uganda report on private practitioners disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Report on "Utilizing the Potential of Formal and Informal Private Practitioners in Uganda" has been produced and disseminated by the SARA project. It provides an example to other countries in the region on how to conduct a situational analysis of the types of private practitioners available at the community level, the degree of their utilization by the community, the quality of child health services they offer and the national policies regulating their practices.

5. Assist selected countries (e.g., Uganda and possibly Mali/Senegal) in conducting situation analysis for the role of private practitioners in child survival

Expected Outputs:

- Situation analysis conducted in selected countries
- At least one private practitioner strategy developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The situational analysis is completed in Uganda. SARA is collaborating with WHO Headquarters and WHO/AFRO in supporting Uganda in designing an intervention strategy to include private practitioners in child survival programs. The Uganda experience will serve as a model to other countries.

6. Collaborate with WHO/Geneva to develop & promote replication of methodology for including private practitioners in IMCI

Expected Outputs:

- Method for involving private practitioners in ICMI documented & plans developed to implement it in selected countries

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA continues to collaborate with WHO's Child and Adolescent Health department in supporting and documenting the process of conducting situational analyses and developing a national strategy to include private practitioners in child survival in Uganda. This process will help other countries develop similar strategies.

7. Facilitate the development of a strategy to scale up IMCI, e.g. through the private sector

Expected outputs:

- Report on Uganda's experience printed & disseminated
- Document Uganda's experience in applying innovative training techniques (contracting & short course)

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

A report on Uganda's situation analysis for including private practitioners in IMCI has been developed and disseminated. Hugh Waters presented the results of the review of literature on the promotion of private sector in child health to an inter-agency group in the World Bank in January. Based on additional comments provided by Oscar Picazo, SARA Health Care Finance and Reform Advisor, and Youssef Tawfik, SARA Senior Child Survival, Dr. Waters submitted the final draft in March, and it has been forwarded to the World Bank (April Harding/Flavia Bustreo) for possible publication. Mr. Picazo also completed in January a short article on the role of the private sector in child health, which the World Bank has requested to be published as part of the "Viewpoint" series.

8. Facilitate the dissemination & use of COPE for child health

Expected Outputs:

- Evaluation of COPE in child health discussed & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

A draft report on “COPE for Child Health in Kenya and Guinea: An analysis of changes in services’ quality” has been produced. EngenderHealth is planning a dissemination meeting in Guinea and Kenya next quarter. Meanwhile, they have requested AFR/SD/HRD to set a date for a general dissemination meeting in WDC.

SO 19 : **Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services.**

Technical Area: **Malaria RP**

1. CORE Regional Workshop for PVOs on Malaria Prevention & Control in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided by SARA staff & consultants, workshop organized, report prepared & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale has continued to actively engage with the CORE Malaria Working Group and other partners in discussing the development and implementation of follow-up activities.

2. Support for the development of revised strategic directions for USAID malaria activities in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- SARA staff & consultant involved in meetings & electronic exchanges with partners

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA staff attended the AFR/SD/HRD Infectious Diseases Core Team meetings held this quarter. One of the topics discussed during the ID Core Team meetings was the Malaria Action Coalition that USAID proposes to put in place for promoting effective therapy and safe pregnancies.

3. Support for M & E of the Joint WHO/AFRO & USAID support for malaria control programs in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided by SARA staff & consultant

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale participated in a meeting of the RBM external evaluation team with USAID and representatives of selected CAs. Dr. Duale provided some historical perspectives on the ongoing collaboration between AFR/SD/HRD and WHO/AFRO in support of malaria control programs in Africa.

4. Technical support for malaria activities of selected African institutions & networks such as MRTC, RCQHC, ICIPE

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided by SARA staff & consultant
- Meetings & electronic exchanges organized

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale met with Dr. Chilunga Puta of the RCQHC in mid-February to discuss and exchange ideas on the center work on malaria and TB in Eastern and Southern Africa. Dr. Duale also had discussions with Dr. Ominde Achola of the CRHCS on the malaria and pregnancy component of the SARA sub-contract with the Secretariat. Both Dr. Chilunga and Dr. Ominde will be getting back to SARA on proposals for potential joint activities.

5. An ICIPE-led working group meeting to discuss training curricula for vector & environmental management for malaria control

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided by SARA staff & consultants
- Workshop organized
- Report prepared & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

6. Support for initiatives on the prevention of malaria in pregnancy in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Working group meetings held
- Advocacy briefs developed & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Discussions regarding the updating of the malaria and pregnancy briefing kit are ongoing with AFR/SD/HRD, CDC and WHO/Roll Back Malaria. A summary of the regional draft guidelines is now in draft and getting reviewed, and Antonia Wolff has proposed two more briefs on anemia and the issues of HIV within malaria and pregnancy.

7. The 3rd MIM African Conference in Arusha, Tanzania

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided by SARA staff & consultants
- Workshop organized
- Report prepared & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale has shared the MIM conference announcement with partner institutions in Africa. SARA is exploring what role to play at this conference.

8. Production, dissemination of the guide to conducting formative research on care-seeking for malaria

Expected Outputs:

- Guide with protocols printed & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The Guide entitled 'A Guide to Research on Care-Seeking for Childhood Malaria,' is jointly supported by SARA and the BASICS II Project. BASICS II is currently formatting and laying out the Guide, and it is expected to be finalized and printed in the next quarter.

9. Provide support to ECSACON to include malaria & pregnancy in its August 2002 conference agenda

Expected Outputs:

- Attendance of African midwives and/or speakers at conference funded
- Travel of speaker on malaria & pregnancy supported
- Advocacy materials shared at meeting

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This quarter, Caroline Blair initiated communication with ECSACON that resulted in a satellite session on malaria in pregnancy being integrated into the ECSACON 2002 conference agenda. A copy of a proposal to support this satellite session was received and discussed with AFR/SD/HRD, and JHPIEGO/MNH. Information on the conference was also shared with WHO/AFRO, which may now provide some additional support and send a staff member to participate in the meeting. Communication between the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC) and ECSACON was also initiated by Caroline, and it is expected that RCQHC will attend the meeting and provide a speaker. A CTO letter to provide support for participants' travel was prepared and signed.

10. Support CRHCS in promoting best practices in malaria & pregnancy

Expected Outputs:

- Review of member states' policies completed, discussed at Family & RH Steering Committee
- Report January 02-Sept 02 completed & repackaged
- Issue of malaria & pregnancy included as major agenda item at at least one major meeting

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

CRHCS held a meeting of its family and reproductive health steering committee this quarter. A report will be available next quarter. Among the issues discussed were the proposed scope of work for the malaria in pregnancy policy review activity. Committee members provided comments and the SOW will shortly be updated and a consultant recruited. Caroline Blair was a co-opted member of the committee and participated in the review process. Members of the committee informed CRHCS that a number of countries that had made progress on the malaria in pregnancy policy development front had recently met in Malawi, and that it would be important for CRHCS to have the meeting report. This report was subsequently shared with CRHCS.

SO 19 : Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services.

Technical Area: Tuberculosis

1. Implementation of the Women & TB study in Tanzania

Expected Outputs:

- Data collected & analyzed, report prepared
- Dissemination workshop organized

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The data collection was completed this quarter. The data set had some problem due to some entry errors. The HealthScope consultant statistician has fixed the problem. The study team is in the process analyzing the data. It is hoped that the first draft report will be available early in the next quarter. The team might be able to prepare an abstract for the TB in Africa Conference to be held in South Africa in July 2002.

2. Support for the working group meeting on linking TB & HIV programs

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided by SARA staff & consultants

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The SARA Project sponsored the participation of Dr. Sambe Duale and seven program managers from Malawi, South Africa and Uganda at the joint WHO, USAID and CDC-sponsored workshop in Nairobi, Kenya on February 11-15, 2002, to develop collaborative TB and HIV/AIDS program activities in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. A total of about 75 TB and HIV/AIDS program managers, USAID HPN officers, CDC GAP Directors, WHO staff and resource persons attended the meeting. Funding and preparations for this workshop were provided jointly by WHO, USAID and CDC. Dr. Duale joined Dr. Cornelia Davis of AFR/SD/HRD in representing USAID among the facilitators and resource persons for the meeting. A briefing of AFR/SD/HRD interested staff on the workshop was held on Wednesday, February 27, 2002. Dr. Duale has been following up on the next steps taken by the Tanzania team.

3. Organize information sharing on the implementation of TB control programs in African settings at the African TB conference in South Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Information-sharing activities planned & organized.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale met with Dr. Pinini of the TB Control Program in South Africa during the TB-HIV workshop in Nairobi to seek updated information on the planning of the conference. Dr. Duale will follow-up and explore what role SARA is to play at the meeting. It is hoped that the TB and Gender study findings will be ready for dissemination at this meeting.

SO 19 : Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services.

Technical Area: Infectious Diseases

1. . Technical support for the joint WHO/AFRO, CDC & USAID support for integrated disease surveillance systems in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Technical assistance from SARA staff & consultant provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The lessons learned to date from the technical assistance of CDC to WHO/AFRO in the implementation of AFR/SD/HRD-funded programs, including the IDS strategy, were documented by SARA consultant Suzanne McLees. The report was produced and presented to AFR/SD/HRD.

2. Technical support to AFR/SD/HRD on Epidemic Preparedness & Response, & Transition Initiatives

Expected Outputs:

- Review meetings held
- TA provided to update this area

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

3. Support to WHO/AFRO in integrated surveillance activities

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale participated in conference calls and electronic exchanges to discuss the planning of a working group to be held in April 2002 to develop the joint WHO, CDC and USAID IDSR work plan for 2002 and to prepare for the IDSR Task Force to held later this year in Kampala, Uganda.

4. Documentation of Kay study on laboratory strengthening

Expected Outputs:

- Lab strengthening work documented & dissemination

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The report is currently being reviewed. SARA staff will work with AFR/SD/HRD partners to develop a repackaging and dissemination plan in the next quarter.

5. Finalize, print, & disseminate Laboratory manual in French

Expected Outputs:

- Assistance provided
- Document produced & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The French Lab Manual has been completed and the dissemination process is underway. Collaborating closely with CDC and WHO/AFRO, SARA staff has developed a dissemination plan and a questionnaire to accompany the manual to assess its impact in the region. The Lab Manual is now available in English and French on the SARA website. A CD-ROM will be produced in the next quarter.

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services

Technical Area: Nutrition

Support to AFR/SD/HRD

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 19 team in managing the Nutrition Technical Area (including MTCT/nutrition issues)

Expected Outputs:

- Core team meetings held
- SO 19 portfolio reviews conducted
- Performance monitoring plan drafted
- Peer reviews organized
- Expert advice provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA provided input to AFR/SD/HRD for the Nutrition Results reporting this quarter. This input included documentation of the activities and results from SARA and SANA only. This activity was hindered by travel and communication lapses, in part influenced by the reorganization that is taking place. No feedback was provided to SARA/SANA on their contributions, or on the contributions of other Collaborating Agencies. SARA probably could have been more useful to the AFR/SD/HRD for this activity if there was more communication on the report. Perhaps this problem could be avoided in the future by scheduling periodic meetings of the Nutrition Core group.

2. Provide technical support to AFR Core Groups, G-PHN, & CA partners on nutrition issues in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Meetings attended
- Expert advice/input provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA met with AFR/SD's Nutrition and Agriculture team to discuss their activities and future plans. Unfortunately, because of the reorganization, the group's future activities were uncertain and no concrete follow-up activities could be agreed on during this meeting.

SARA met with AFR/SD/HRD to discuss PMTCT activities in March. The PMTCT group has been relatively dormant over the last several months. SARA feels that it could more effectively serve AFR/SD/HRD if periodic PMTCT core group meetings are scheduled.

SARA provided technical assistance to FANTA on HIV/Nutrition issues this quarter. Dorcas Lwanga, SARA/SANA Nutritionist, has provided ongoing feedback as part of a team developing a handbook that is being prepared with REDSO support to FANTA on how to develop national guidelines on nutrition care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS in Africa.

SARA provided technical assistance to LINKAGES on issues around the early cessation of breastfeeding by HIV-positive mothers. LINKAGES is developing guidelines for their field programs on this issue.

3. Continuous issues identification & preparation of research & analysis to support nutrition in Africa

- **Nutrition of women & children in Africa**
- **Expanding programs to improve complementary feeding**
- **Nutrition for HIV infected women during pregnancy & lactation**
- **Nutrition for HIV+ children**
- **Anemia & infectious diseases**

Expected Outputs:

- Issues papers drafted
- Issues papers reviewed by experts
- Issues papers produced & disseminated
- Issues papers translated to French
- Posters or oral presentations developed
- Consultative meetings organized
- Workshops / conferences with dissemination component attended

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA finalized its paper on expanding programs to improve complementary feeding this quarter. This paper is being published in the Food and Nutrition Bulletin as proceedings from the WHO global consultation held in December 2001. This paper was co-funded by the AED Center for Nutrition and WHO.

SARA has initiated literature reviews on nutrition for HIV-infected women during pregnancy and lactation, and on nutrition for HIV-positive children. This activity will continue into the next one to two quarters of the project.

SARA has also initiated literature reviews on antiretroviral medications and HIV/AIDS for a brief to help those providing nutrition care and support to PLWHA. This activity will also continue into the next one or two quarters of the project.

4. Evaluate the impact of AFR/SD/HRD nutrition investments & disseminate results

- **SANA evaluation**
- **PROFILES evaluation**
- **Prepare concept paper for new directions with PROFILES/advocacy for nutrition**

Expected Outputs:

- SANA evaluation report completed
- PROFILES evaluation report completed
- Conferences/workshops attended where results are presented & discussed
- Concept paper prepared

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The SANA evaluation was finalized this quarter and is now being produced. The evaluation will be distributed/disseminated along with the SANA Impact Reviews. These were edited this quarter and will be available for dissemination by June 2002 (the end date for the SANA project).

There have been delays in the completion of the PROFILES evaluation report. These delays were due to staff turnover. Jay Ross and Helen Stiefel, AED PROFILES Coordinators, have assumed responsibility for the analysis and report writing. All the interviews have been text-coded and the report should be available by the end of May 2002. Findings will be presented at the July 2002 ITANA (Information Technologies for Nutrition in Africa) Conference to be held in Nairobi. The report will include recommendations for new directions in PROFILES.

Support to African Institutions

1. Strengthen African partners' capacity for:

- Nutrition policy analysis & advocacy
- PRSP & nutrition
- Use of AFR-supported nutrition tools/materials in NGO & pre-service settings
- Nutrition, MTCT, & HIV/AIDS

Expected Outputs:

- Regional training workshops conducted on nutrition advocacy, PRSP, use of nutrition tools, HIV
- Follow-up assistance provided for implementation of new approaches
- Information shared during regional meetings

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

CRHCS continued its efforts to evaluate the impact of the nutrition briefs in the ECSA region. This evaluation, which is part of the CRHCS/AED subcontract, has been hampered by low response rates from mailed interviews. CRHCS and AED will begin telephoning non-respondents to obtain feedback on the Briefs and their influence/use.

SARA/SANA has been working with BASICS in West Africa to prepare a workshop with the Benin Institute of Public Health on the use of nutrition tools and materials in pre-service training. The workshop will be held in April 2002.

SARA/SANA has been working with WAHO to adapt the Nutrition Briefs to the West African Context. The Briefs are being reviewed by WAHO for content and appropriateness to the target audience. The Briefs will be produced and disseminated by SANA through June 2002 (project end date). It is hoped that WAHO will take over dissemination after the end of the SANA project.

No PRSP workshops were held this quarter.

SARA received a request this quarter from the University of the Western Cape for technical assistance on HIV and infant feeding research issues. In particular, UWC has received support from the Health Systems Trust, WHO, and UNICEF to conduct a series of studies on the impact of the South African PMTCT Pilot Projects on infant feeding practices and postnatal HIV transmission. The assistance requested was for the design of the research, analysis and reporting/dissemination of findings. A request was made to AFR/SD/HRD to obtain SARA technical support for these activities this quarter and discussions are ongoing about SARA's role.

2. Monitoring of existing agreements with African institutions & networks

Expected Outputs:

- Expert advice/input provided
- Monitoring visits conducted

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA has been working closely with CRHCS to monitor the implementation of activities outlined in the subcontract. There has been limited progress, as noted above, on the evaluation of the Nutrition Briefs and on dissemination of the PROFILES evaluation findings. Several conference calls were held this quarter to discuss SARA support for HIV and nutrition activities in the region. CRHCS received a grant from WHO/AFRO to conduct several activities. Some of these activities overlap with the SARA subcontract scope of work, and others complement the SOW. Therefore, CRHCS and SARA have been trying to determine how to proceed in order to maximize the use of available resources. CRHCS would like to use the SARA funds for a nutrition focal point meeting to discuss HIV issues in May 2002. The objectives and agenda are still being determined.

No monitoring visits were conducted in this quarter.

3. Dissemination of promising practices in Africa through regional networks

- **WAHO focal points**
- **CRHCS nutrition network**
- **Other HIV networks**

Expected Outputs:

- Regional dissemination meetings organized with SARA assistance
- Promising practices documented & disseminated through presentations, case study, other media

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA/SANA has continued to provide technical assistance to WAHO this quarter. SANA Field Advisor Kinday Samba Ndure participated in the January international planning meeting for the 2003 nutrition focal point meeting, which will be held in Banjul in September. Ms. Ndure also attended a strategic planning workshop organized by WAHO to develop its program for nutrition in the region. This meeting was held in Burkina Faso in March (support for Kinday's participation was provided directly by WAHO and SANA).

Apart from the conference calls mentioned earlier, no additional dissemination activities have taken place with CRHCS or other HIV networks.

4. Dissemination of new advocacy materials for nutrition

- **West Africa Nutrition Briefs**
- **Nutrition of women & children in Africa**

Expected Outputs:

- Briefs produced, translated, disseminated
- Situation assessment produced, repackaged for regional use

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The West Africa version of the Nutrition Briefs was finalized, edited and translated into French this quarter. The briefs were sent to WAHO for feedback and comments prior to final production. WAHO responded very positively to the Briefs and agreed to endorse them.

SO 19: Adoption of Policies and Strategies for Increased sustainability, Quality, Efficiency, and Equity of Health Services

Technical Area: Maternal Health/Essential Obstetrical Care (EOC)

1. Work with African Institutions to expand REDUCE/ALIVE initiative in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Model introduced
- Follow-up/capacity building completed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This quarter, significant time was devoted to planning the REDUCE/Mauritania workshop that WHO/AFRO is funding and that is scheduled for May 26-June 7 of next quarter. While in Dakar for a separate activity, Caroline Blair met with CEFOREP, the regional institution that will be helping to expand the initiative in Francophone Africa, to ensure that at least two of its staff members plan to attend the Mauritania workshop. CEFOREP will be sending up to three persons to Mauritania as co-facilitators. All three participated in the REDUCE Senegal workshop and will now begin taking the lead as facilitators.

This quarter, Ms. Blair also collected and compiled background materials to assist future REDUCE workshop facilitators, including a glossary of safe motherhood terms, frequently asked questions and answers, and a power point presentation discussing issues in measuring maternal mortality. These materials were adapted for REDUCE purposes by the Ms. Blair and translated into French to form part of a “training kit” that facilitators could draw on in future workshops.

2. Assist CEFOREP & SAGO to monitor its EOC resolutions from 1998 & to input these into ongoing work

Expected Outputs:

- Plans developed for policy monitoring
- Report on progress made in implementing policy resolutions in member states

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

While in Dakar for the post abortion care conference, Caroline Blair discussed this planned activity with CEFOREP (along with others) and requested CEFOREP to submit a proposal to SARA. We expect to receive the proposal next quarter.

3. Continue to provide support to ACNM meta-analysis project

Expected Outputs:

- Analysis completed & dissemination strategy developed
- One-day workshop to develop follow-on plans discussed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The report of the meta analysis was received. Several attempts were made to schedule a presentation at AFR/SD/HRD but were unsuccessful due to conflicting travel schedules. The report will be shared with AFR/SD/HRD and a date set during the next quarter to discuss the report findings and next steps. The report has also been submitted by ACNM to several peer reviewed journals.

4. Support dissemination & regional training on curriculum & standards & guidelines for EOC clinical practice in West Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Regional meeting held to disseminate new guidelines

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The regional meeting on pre-service education is scheduled for September 2002, and will be jointly funded by SARA and SFPS.

In January, Susi Wyss of JHPIEGO traveled to Abidjan to document pre-service achievements that the SFPS project has made to date and their work planned in pre-service for the remainder of the project. This trip was funded by SFPS, although some of Ms. Wyss' time was billed to SARA as per the agreed sub-contract.

During this trip, Ms. Wyss worked with the Abidjan-based SFPS Training Component staff to review general ideas on the Regional Pre-service Meeting in September 2002, as well as a checklist of tasks/responsibilities for the meeting. She then met with FHA-USAID, along with the SFPS Training Director, to obtain USAID's input. It was determined that next steps include:

- Send a questionnaire to the schools who attended the Pre-service Forum in 1996 to determine what progress has been made toward the action plans developed in 1996.
- Based on questionnaire results draft a report on progress made in each country and recommended best practices/lessons learned based on the experiences.
- Using the report as background, meet with a core group of regional stakeholders (May 30 and 31 in Abidjan) to set the agenda for the pre-service regional meeting.

In February, Ms. Wyss, with input from SFPS and the JHPIEGO Research and Evaluation office, developed a questionnaire for the schools. This was sent to 25 schools who attended the Forum. To date, 13 of these questionnaires have been returned. Also in the February/March period, the SFPS office sent invitations and began planning logistics for the May 30 and 31 planning meeting. This planning activity will be funded by SFPS.

5. Support Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat (CRHCS) to undertake review of safe motherhood models & present findings at appropriate meetings

Expected Outputs:

- Review undertaken by CRHCS
- Findings repackaged & presented at at least one regional meeting

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The SOW for the consultancy was developed and revised based on partners' (including SARA) comments, and a consultant was selected to undertake the task. The SOW was also presented with members of the Family and Reproductive Health Steering Committee meeting in Maputo this quarter. The consultant will start work in April.

SO 19: Adoption of Policies and Strategies for Increased sustainability, Quality, Efficiency, and Equity of Health Services

Technical Area: Health Care Finance & Reform

General – Cross-Cutting
<p>1. Issues paper on the Health Sector Human Resource (HR)/work force Crisis in Africa</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper finalized, produced, disseminated <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>Copies of the draft paper were disseminated at the World Bank Institute consultative meeting on Adapting to Change Program on Reproductive Health in the Context of Health Reform held February 18-20, 2002, in Kampala, Uganda.</p> <p>In addition, the paper was included as one of the resource materials and presented in the joint World Bank/WHO/Afro/UNESCO Consultative Meeting on “Building Strategic Partnerships in Education and Health in Africa” which was held in Addis Ababa from January 31st to February 7th. WHO/Afro subsequently included the paper in their website on Human Resources in Africa. Further discussions with colleagues from the World Bank and WHO/Afro indicated the need for a “model” terms of reference (TOR) for the conduct of country case assessments. This “model” TOR has been completed and will be appended to the paper.</p>
<p>2. Participate in the USAID’s Human Resource Task Force</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed action plan on how to address HR issues in USAID programs <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>No activity this quarter.</p>
<p>3. Draft paper on the Role of USAID in Sector-Wide Approaches (SWAp) & Health Sector Reform (HSR)</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper finalized, presented, & reviewed • Follow-on work determined <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>The paper remains in draft; co-author Nancy Godfrey has been on foreign service training.</p>

4. Provide technical support to AFR/SD/HRD & field missions on aspects related to HSR, including the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Key information & updates provided to AFR/SD/HRD & field missions on HSR
- Peer reviews provided to consultant reports

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo assisted USAID/Kenya and the Kenya National Health Insurance Fund (Isirat Hussein) plan for multi-country visits of Kenyan Parliamentarians and the NHIF Board to see different modalities of social health insurance. Mr. Picazo did a literature search and provided hard copies of documents to NHIF on health insurance funds of countries targeted to be visited, i.e., PhilHealth in the Philippines, the Thai Social Insurance Fund, Chile's "privatized" health insurance program, and Bolivia's decentralized insurance program for child and maternal health.

5. Provide technical support to AFR/SD/HRD, cooperating agencies, governments & other donors on National Health Accounts

Expected Outputs:

- AFR/SD/HRD planning meetings held
- NHA work plans reviewed
- Dissemination meetings attended

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

A teleconference with WHO/Afro, SIDA, PHR Project, REDSO, CRHCS and AFR/SD/HRD was organized in March on how best to move forward with the growing list of countries interested in NHA. Oscar Picazo, I. Shehata and S. De of PHR subsequently met with A. Soucat of the World Bank to solicit Bank support for NHA in West Africa, and Soucat confirmed that indeed such support is forthcoming. A regional consultative meeting set for April 18 has been moved to June 4 to accommodate additional bilateral European donors. While in Kenya, Mr. Picazo also met with Steven Muchiri of MOH Policy and Planning Department on how best to meet the MOH's commitments to conduct NHA and the Bank-endorsed social expenditure review.

6. Define health care financing follow-up activities to September 1999 conference on RH health care reform

Expected Outputs:

- To be determined in consultation with AFR/SD/HRD & CAs

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

7. Define health reform, health financing & health economics analytical & training activities that can be supported through CESAG

Expected Outputs:

- TBD in consultation with AFR/SD/HRD, CESAG & CAs

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo has made arrangements with the World Bank Institute (Gilles Dussault) and with MSH's Management and Leadership (M&L) Project so that the representatives of these agencies can be in West Africa together in late May and meet jointly with CESAG.

8. Assist AFR/SD/HRD Team as needed in managing the SO & IRs pertaining to sustainability & health financing policies & programs: cost sharing & user fees, Bamako Initiatives & other community financing schemes, government budgeting & expenditure management, fiscal decentralization, & related topics

Expected Outputs:

- Key information & updates provided to AFR/SD/HRD, field missions, & cooperating agencies
- Peer reviews provided to consultant reports
- Dissemination meetings organized & attended

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo and soon-to-be PHN officer for Tanzania, John Dunlop, met with World Bank Tanzania task manager for health Chiyo Kanda to appraise J. Dunlop of the current status of health sector reform and health financing in Tanzania.

Mr. Picazo organized with O. Pannenberg and F. Diop of the World Bank and the PHR Project to hold the first technical series on community health financing, which was held at the Africa Region of the World Bank, with PHR consultants, in the second week of February.

Mr. Picazo reviewed the health financing agenda of the CRHCS when he visited Arusha in February, and highlighted the need for analyzing the efficacy or non-efficacy of existing waivers and exemptions under user fee systems in Africa. M. Bura has noted this and suggested that it be taken up during the July meeting of the ECSA Ministers of Health.

Mr. Picazo attended a multi-agency meeting at the World Bank in January to identify existing and known performance-based health services contracting. There continues to be a rather narrow definition of "contracts" with many of the implicit government contracts with mission hospitals in Africa assumed away. A better and more comprehensive typology of health services contracts was suggested.

Health Sector Reform & Health Care Financing Support to SO 19
<p>1. Supervise completion of Hugh Water’s paper on Working with the Private Sector on Child Health</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper reviewed, finalized, produced, & disseminated <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>The draft was finalized in March and submitted to the World Bank for possible publication.</p>
<p>2. Complete “Viewpoint” advocacy article on the role of the private sector in child health</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper completed, reviewed, finalized, & disseminated <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>The draft was completed in January and submitted to the World Bank for possible publication.</p>
<p>3. Participate in Inter-Agency Working Group on Child Health</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working group meetings held <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>SARA organized a meeting in February between World Bank staff (April Harding and Flavia Bustreo) and AFR/SD/HRD’s Hope Sukin to exchange information on how child health can be further enhanced.</p>
<p>4. Supervise the drafting of Country Assessment Guideline for Private Sector Participation in Child Health</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country Assessment Guideline completed & reviewed <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>No activity this quarter.</p>

5. Supervise the drafting of Implementation Guidelines on Child Health

Expected Outputs:

- Implementation Guidelines completed & reviewed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

6. Draft concept notes/issues papers on the use of (a) franchising, & (b) vouchers for child health services

Expected Outputs:

- Paper completed, reviewed, finalized & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo visited the Cry for the World Foundation's DrugShops in central Kenya in February to document their experiences in the social franchising of drugs. In addition, Mr. Picazo contacted the German Population Foundation, which is aggressively promoting social franchising as a method of quickly replicating social programs worldwide.

7. Work with BASICS II for the documentation of resources flows to child health at national & district levels in two African countries

Expected Outputs:

- Scope of work completed, finalized & reviewed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter. Oscar Picazo is lobbying with PHR for the inclusion of selected disease interventions (such as AIDS and child health) as part of the second round of NHA estimates.

8. Work with BASICS II for the mapping of key decision points & actors in the policy formulation, planning, budgeting & implementation of child health services, especially EPI

Expected Outputs:

- Scope of work completed, finalized & reviewed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter; likely to be dropped.

9. Provide technical support as needed to AFR/SD/HRD & African institutions on aspects related to the costing, financing, cost-effectiveness & sustainability of child health programs

Expected Outputs:

- Key information & updates provided to AFR/SD/HRD, African institutions, & cooperating agencies
- Peer reviews provided to consultant reports
- Dissemination meetings organized & attended

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

Health Sector Reform & Health Care Financing Support to SO 20

1. Provide technical support to the planning & implementation of FP in hard-hit HIV/AIDS countries under the POLICY Project

Expected Outputs:

- Key information provided to AFR/SD/HRD & cooperating agencies
- Core team meetings held

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

2. Provide technical support as needed to AFR/SD/HRD & African institutions on aspects related to costing, financing, cost-effectiveness, & sustainability of FP, reproductive health, & maternal health/safe motherhood programs

Expected Outputs:

- Key information & updates provided to AFR/SD/HRD, field missions & cooperating agencies
- Peer reviews provided to consultant reports
- Dissemination meetings attended

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo met with Melahi Pons of JHPIEGO on the technical aspects of calculating maternal health services in Kenya.

SO 19: Adoption of Policies and Strategies for Increased sustainability, Quality, Efficiency, and Equity of Health Services

Technical Area: Expanded Program of Immunization (EPI)

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 19 EPI team in managing the EPI agenda, especially human resources/capacity development

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

2. Publication & dissemination of:

- Lessons Learned paper on grant to UNICEF & WHO for 4 countries. (Youssef)
- Advocacy activities for EPI using African institutions (e.g. CRHCS or others)

Expected Outputs:

- Publications produced & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No advocacy activities this quarter for EPI.

3. Work with BASICS II for the documentation of resources flows to child health at national & district levels in two African countries

Expected Outputs:

- Scope of work completed, finalized & reviewed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter. See note on page 37, item 8, above.

4. Work with BASICS II for the mapping of key decision points & actors in the policy formulation, planning, budgeting & implementation of child health services, especially EPI

Expected Outputs:

- Scope of work completed, finalized & reviewed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter; likely to be dropped.

5. Provide technical support as needed to AFR/SD/HRD & African institutions on aspects related to the costing, financing, cost-effectiveness, & sustainability of child health programs

Expected Outputs:

- Key information & updates provided to AFR/SD/HRD, African institutions, & cooperating agencies
- Peer reviews provided to consultant reports
- Dissemination meetings organized & attended

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted

Technical Area: General – Related to overall SO

<p>1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 20 team with managing the RH results packages</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Core team meetings• Results packages completed & periodically updated• R4 completed annually• Strategic support & guidance <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>This activity is ongoing. Caroline Blair and Antonia Wolff attended regular SO 20 core group meetings, often as frequently as twice monthly.</p>
<p>2. Participate in updating of PMP</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PMP revised taking portfolio review report into consideration <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>Daniel Kabira of AFR/SD/HRD was to take the lead in this activity. With the ongoing restructuring of USAID and the uncertainty this created, it was decided to postpone work on the PMP.</p>
<p>3. Assist AFR/SD/HRD with evaluating, tracking, & monitoring performance & results</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Simple data collection tables developed & applied <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>No activity this quarter for SO 20.</p>

4. Continue developing linkages with REDSO, WARP, FHA & SFPS

Expected Outputs:

- At least two activities jointly organized or co-funded with SFPS; could include translation, repackaging of topical information, organization of meetings, etc.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA and SFPS have been working together on an activity to compile SFPS materials, translate, and develop a portfolio brochure highlighting each of the tools. Budgeting issues as well as SFPS reorganization caused delays in initiating the activity this quarter; however, they have now been resolved, and we plan to begin this activity in the next quarter.

5. Publish & disseminate portfolio review report

Expected Outputs:

- Report published & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

One new brief was added to the Portfolio review this quarter on maternal and neo-natal health in Burkina Faso. The packet continues to get disseminated at conferences, meetings and various technical seminars. The portfolio report, among other SARA publications, was distributed to 30 representatives of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities in Atlanta, GA, this March. French versions of the packet were disseminated widely at the Post Abortion Care Conference for Francophone West Africa, also held in March.

6. Finalize & publish annotated bibliography of best practices prepared as part of portfolio review

Expected Outputs:

- Annotated bibliography finalized, published, posted on AFR/SD/HRD web site & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Rhonda Smith at PRB has taken the lead on this activity. A copy editor was hired to finalize the bibliography and this task has been completed. This quarter, a cover design was also developed and agreed on. What remains outstanding in the drafting of the introductory section of the report. This will be completed during the next quarter and distribution can commence.

SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted

Technical Area: Addressing the reproductive health (RH) needs of underserved populations (Male Involvement & ARH)

1. Provide technical assistance & support to RESAR in the finalization & publication of a multi-country study on *male involvement in RH*. Identify opportunities for dissemination

Expected Outputs:

- Final study report prepared & repackaged
- Dissemination plan developed & implemented

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Work continues on RESAR's male involvement studies, with full drafts of Cameroon and Togo now being available in English. Antonia Wolff will assist with a dissemination strategy for these reports, and through AFR/SD/HRD, missions will be asked to: (1) review the four reports; and (2) provide input to the dissemination plans. Caroline Blair has prepared an e-mail that AFR/SD/HRD will review and send out in which missions are asked whether they would like to participate in report reviews and make dissemination suggestions.

2. Support EngenderHealth to evaluate the Guinea male involvement program

Expected Outputs:

- Strategic support to EngenderHealth
- Repackaging & dissemination of lessons learned

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter. EngenderHealth will be undertaking its assessment during quarter three.

3. Participate/help coordinate media activities related to CAN 2002

Expected Outputs:

- West African media coverage of male involvement in RH aspect of CAN 2002 football tournament in Mali

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Based on a review of the proposal received from the lead CA for this activity and an assessment of SARA budgetary priorities, the SO 20 Core Team decided to cancel this activity.

4. Provide support to Youth-net in development & implementation of SOW for AFR/SD/HRD contribution

Expected Outputs:

- SOW developed & activity started

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Youth-net has yet to provide a draft SOW for this contribution. In the upcoming quarter, a meeting to expedite the activity will be organized.

5. Promote media coverage of male involvement issues

Expected Outputs:

- Hold media workshop on male involvement theme

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Due to budgetary constraints, this activity has been delayed until next FY. The SARA contribution will be a contribution to existing funds being provided by Measure Communication.

SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted

Technical Area: Reproductive health policies / strategies promotion: Strategies to strengthen African regional capacity

1. Support CERPOD to update information on adolescent RH in the region by conducting an in-depth analysis of new DHS data from the region

Expected Outputs:

- Up-to-date information available on ARH in at least four CERPOD member countries where new DHS & other data is involved
- Wall chart or brochure presenting this new information in an accessible way developed
- Development of dissemination supported

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Two research assistants were recruited this quarter. They will start their assignment in the upcoming quarter.

2. Support CERPOD to design & conduct a course on qualitative research techniques targeted to RH professionals in Francophone Africa

Expected Outputs:

- Curriculum, marketing plan for recruiting participants, training reports, including training evaluation, drafted

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The CERPOD team contacted the LSHTM to discuss potential dates for the Dakar curriculum development workshop and the planned qualitative research training workshop. Those concerned are now in the process of identifying mutually convenient times for both activities.

The team discussed partner institutions that might be interested in the training and that should receive copies of the course announcement. These include, among others, USAID missions, the USAID/WARP program, the UNFPA/AED IEC training project in Abidjan, WHO, UNAIDS and UNICEF.

SARA/ACI consultant Gary Engleberg worked closely with CERPOD Program Officer Mamadou Konaté to prepare a draft course announcement that will be circulated by CERPOD to LSHTM and others for comment and finalization prior to printing and distribution.

3. Continue to support selected African Institutions such as RESAR & link them with WARP/FHA & other projects & organizations

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Ongoing. This quarter, Caroline Blair assisted CERPOD in developing a presentation on its SARA-supported activities and CERPOD met with WARP Director Carleene Dei and gave the presentation. A request for support to RESAR's upcoming scientific meeting was received and a CTO Letter was drafted to provide this support in late March. It is expected that the support will be discussed and reviewed in April. Work continues on RESAR's male involvement studies, with full drafts of Cameroon and Togo now being available in English. Antonia Wolff will assist with a dissemination strategy for these reports. SARA also provided support to the regional PAC conference, attended by 13 countries, as well as 12 cooperating agencies and international organizations. AFR/SD/HRD and G Bureau both were represented at the meeting, and G Bureau took the lead in informing WARP, FHA and Missions. The SFPS project was also represented at the conference.

4. Share tools developed by SARA & SFPS

Expected Outputs:

- Brochure in English & French, searchable CD-ROM, developed
- Information posted to AFR/SD/HRD & SFPS websites

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

A CTO letter was developed for SARA to assist SFPS/FHA to catalogue all materials and tools developed by that project. Selected SARA tools will also be included. Funding constraints required that SFPS be asked to co-fund the activity. SFPS did not indicate an ability to co-fund at this time. SARA asked AFR/SD/HRD to reconsider funding the entire activity, and after consultations between AFR/SD/HRD and WARP, a decision was made to allow SARA to fund the entire activity. SFPS has not responded to recent correspondence informing them of this change and asking that they proceed with consultant selection. AFR/SD/HRD was asked to intervene to expedite the start of the activity, and it was agreed that AFR/SD/HRD would communicate with the SFPS CTO to move the activity forward. Meanwhile, SARA will continue to bring SFPS on board. It is hoped that some movement will take place next quarter.

5. PAC regional workshop to take stock of ongoing work & to assist West African countries to plan for PAC activities including behavioral & community mobilization issues

Expected Outputs:

- Initiative launched at Conference
- Action plans developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Caroline Blair took part in all the DC-based planning activities, including work with Advance Africa to plan a follow-on session for “Partage” members. This includes review of the planned agenda and suggestions for a media plan. SARA also provided CEFOREP, the host institution, with support for this role during this quarter. SARA, through sub-contractor JHPIEGO, also participated in the final Dakar-based planning meetings.

The PAC meeting took place March 4-7, with the Partage group holding a follow-on workshop at which participants developed proposals for small grants to move national PAC action plans forward. Ms. Blair attended the PAC conference and took part in planning for the press conference. She facilitated a full day at the mini-university sessions on integrating FP into PAC services. Ms. Blair also mobilized additional funds for the initiative through Measure Communication, which had not previously been involved with the conference or initiative, but which supported selected journalists from the region to attend the conference, and organized a press briefing to encourage accurate reporting on the issue.

The meeting attracted over 165 participants from at least 12 countries. A number of cooperating agencies were involved in this collaborative conference that has now launched a regional PAC initiative.

SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted

Technical Area: Women's empowerment

1. Support the establishment of an East & South African women's media network hosted by S. African media org. in collaboration Measure Communication

Expected Outputs:

- Seminars completed
- Print articles & broadcast programs produced
- Changes in media strategies documented

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The first meeting of the network will take place April 15-17. Network members were chosen and notified in conjunction with Missions in Zambia, South Africa, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi. Logistical arrangements, including identification of facilitators and speakers, and booking of a venue have taken place. The network members selected the theme of the role of woman journalists in addressing young women's RH issues and needs. The Regional Centre for Quality of Health Care was selected to provide logistical services and a mechanism was put in place to allow this. Reference documents on the subject of young women's sexual and reproductive health were collected and compiled and a draft agenda prepared.

2. Continue to support expansion of REDUCE initiative

Expected Outputs:

- Regional sharing of the tool, capacity-building, Africa follow up
- E-notes, fact sheets, presentations given to promote initiative

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is ongoing, and the information brochure produced last quarter continues to be distributed. WHO will be funding a REDUCE application in Mauritania next quarter and Caroline Blair continues to play a key role in planning this and in involving CEFOREP in the application. Discussions to develop a unified monitoring system and tool to follow up continue. Following the Nigeria REDUCE application that took place last quarter, Ms. Blair (plus other members of AED's Center for Policy and Capacity Building) was asked to review a booklet developed by the Nigeria REDUCE team with WHO/AFRO support. The booklet has now been finalized and printed. The Nigeria REDUCE team has also developed a video of the REDUCE presentation.

This quarter, Ms. Blair also collected and compiled background materials to assist future REDUCE workshop facilitators, including a glossary of safe motherhood terms, frequently asked questions and answers, and a PowerPoint presentation discussing issues in measuring maternal mortality. These materials were adapted for REDUCE purposes by Ms. Blair and translated into French to form part of a "training kit" that facilitators could draw on in future workshops.

With SARA support, representatives of the Uganda and Mozambique REDUCE teams made presentations on their experience using the tool at the CRHCS Family and RH Steering Committee this quarter.

3. Support discussion of emergency contraception in RH

Expected Outputs:

- Issue discussed by African partners & included on agenda of at least one partner meeting

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The Regional Conference on Post Abortion Care in Dakar included a well-attended session on emergency contraception. Caroline Blair facilitated this session (during the “mini-university” day) and has been instrumental in providing participants with information in English and French on EC. This included requesting FHI to send copies of its “Network” issue dedicated to EC to all those participants that requested additional information. Ms. Blair also arranged for the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy to send additional information to session participants, while she collected and sent out additional fact sheets and documents developed by NGO Networks for Health and the EC Consortium.

4. Explore possible support to FGC initiatives

Expected Outputs:

- Will depend on activities defined

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Caroline Blair met with USAID’s new FGC Advisor and helped arrange meetings for him at PRB. The FGC Advisor will be providing a SOW for additional work next quarter.

SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted

Technical Area: Effective Strategies for Integrating HIV/AIDS and FP

1. Support technical meetings of West African experts, program managers and policy-makers on topical and emerging issues in RH, including HIV/AIDS

Expected Outputs:

- Major regional meeting on best practices in integration, dual protection, etc.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA will provide strategic guidance on a dual protection meeting in West Africa, the dates of which have yet to be confirmed by SFPS/FHA.

Under the leadership of AFR/SD/HRD's Senior Evaluation Specialist and in coordination with the CTO for the Policy Project, Caroline Blair participated in the development of a SOW for the Policy Project's analysis of the impact of HIV/AIDS on FP and other RH services in countries severely affected by HIV/AIDS. This included developing a separate CTO letter to support qualitative research to supplement the work that Policy is spearheading in order that internationally available data and research is supplemented with analysis of women's perceptions on how the HIV epidemic has affected their access to other RH services.

2. Provide support to WARP/FHA/REDSO on RH activities

Expected Outputs:

- Will depend on AFR/SD/HRD & FHA requests

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

In addition to materials and tool activities mentioned in the SO 20 section, SARA was asked to help inventory RH activities currently being done in The Gambia and Niger. Although the activity is likely to start next quarter, preliminary contacts have been made with colleagues in those countries to identify consultants.

3. Francophone Quality of Care TA as needed from MAQ meeting

Expected Outputs:

- Technical assistance provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Activity this quarter focused on the post abortion care activity, at which many members of the Francophone MAQ were present.

4. Support for PPT studies

Expected Outputs:

- One-page briefs from the PSI documents produced & included in next version of RH Briefing packet

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is completed. The brief was produced and included in the RH briefing packet.

5. Provide support & guidance on need for continued population /RH programs

Expected Outputs:

- Issues papers/case studies by Advance Africa; discussion of these issues by African partners & in African Region

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

6. Provide support & guidance on need for continued population /RH programs

Expected Outputs:

- Provide strategic guidance on issues papers/case studies
- Policy II will do; provide review to fact sheets

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

As indicated in item 1 in this section, under the leadership of AFR/SD/HRD's Senior Evaluation Specialist and in coordination with the CTO for the Policy Project, Caroline Blair participated in the development of a SOW for the Policy Project's analysis of the impact of HIV/AIDS on FP and other RH services in countries severely affected by HIV/AIDS. This included developing a separate CTO letter to support qualitative research to supplement the work that Policy is spearheading in order that internationally available data and research is supplemented with analysis of women's perceptions on how the HIV epidemic has affected their access to other RH services.

Also, Ms. Blair accompanied AFR/SD/HRD's Senior Evaluation Specialist to the Mozambique Mission, and assisted him in answering questions from Mission staff and CAs following his presentation on the repositioning of FP at USAID. This presentation was prepared by AFR/SD/HRD last quarter – Ms. Blair provided background information (from PRB and other sources) demonstrating Africa's growing share of world population, continued rapid population growth, and a need for continued population assistance despite the HIV/AIDS epidemic. This information incorporated into a major presentation and analysis prepared by AFR/SD/HRD that resulted in additional funds being made available for population activities.

The Senior Evaluation Specialist also gave this presentation at a combined plenary session of the CRHCS Family and RH Steering Committee and the HIV/AIDS Multi-sectoral task force meeting in Maputo Mozambique; Ms. Blair again assisted in responding to questions.

SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted

Technical Area: Dissemination & Advocacy

1. Guidance given to CA partners on dissemination & advocacy as related to documentation of projects, etc.

- **SFPS pamphlet**
- **MNH resource package**

Expected Outputs:

- Guidance provided as needed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Antonia Wolff is working with SFPS on producing a brochure and CD-ROM. This is expected to begin in the next quarter. Ms. Wolff had an initial dissemination strategy planning meeting with partners from MNH to distribute their resource package on maternal and neo-natal health. More consultations may occur in the next quarter.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: **Enhanced Coordination of partners to support HIV/AIDS programs in Africa**

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD Team, as needed, in managing the HIV/AIDS Results package

Expected Outputs:

- Core team meetings held
- SO 21 portfolio reviews organized.
- Performance monitoring plan drafted
- Peer reviews organized & expert advice provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA, represented by Dr. Stephen Kinoti, SARA HIV/AIDS Advisor, continued to participate in weekly HIV/AIDS Team Meeting and monthly represented by Renuka Bery, SARA Dissemination and Advocacy Manager, and Dr. Kinoti. Because of the ongoing reorganization of USAID, the HIV/AIDS portfolio review has not been undertaken.. Expert advice was provided on a number of issues including on the impact of HIV/AIDS on human resources in the health sector.

2. Chair meetings of the USAID Health Sector HIV/AIDS Group

Expected Outputs:

- Minutes of meetings
- SOW for the assessment of the Impact of HIV/AIDS on Human Resources in the Health Sector.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Two meetings of the Health Sector HIV/AIDS Group were held during the period to assist in the preparation for the Consultative meeting Rethinking HIV/AIDS and Development. The Group, led by Stephen Kinoti, prepared the meeting recommendation following the meeting. Other SARA staff who participated were Ellen Piwoz, SARA Nutrition Advisor, Dorcas Lwanga, Oscar Picazo, Antonia Wolff and Renuka Bery. Ms. Bery and the publications team played a major role in preparing, planning and conducting this meeting.

3. Work closely with REDSO/ESA to coordinate activities under the CRHCS/SARA sub-contract & the REDSO/CRHCS

Expected Outputs:

- Joint REDSO/SARA activity plans
- Reports from the CRHCS on implementation status

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Stephen Kinoti held working meetings to develop and plan activities under the CRHCS/SARA subcontract. He met with Dr. Bannet Ndyanabangi, on HIV/AIDS, Ominde Achola on F&RH, Ms Shmari and Ms. Bibi Giyose on Food and Nutrition, And Msilaji and Achola on Information Dissemination and Technology issues.

He also worked with the Regional Secretary, Dr. Steven Shongwe, Regional Secretary, and the Administrative Secretary, Mr. Zoonadi Ngwenya, on scheduling and financial management issues.

Dr. Kinoti met with the REDSO Team led by Leslie Perry the HPN Officer and worked on coordination and scheduling of activities under the subcontract and the CRHCS/REDSO Limited Scope Grant Agreement.

4. Joint planning & coordination activities on HIV/AIDS initiatives in Africa (World Bank, SADC UNAIDS, WHO, LIFE, etc.)

Expected Outputs:

- SARA staff involved in meetings & electronic exchanges with partners

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Stephen Kinoti and Oscar Picazo participated in joint planning meetings involving the World Bank, USAID, WHO and SARA on strategic partnerships between health and education for health. This culminated in a regional consultation involving health, education, local government, finance, medical schools and professional association representatives from Sub-Sahara Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This consultation developed follow-up activities to strengthen the partnership and undertake situation analysis of human resources for health in the region.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: African Institutions/Capacity Building

1. Facilitate Community Forum of NAP+ , SWAA & AFRICASO at ICASA in Ouaga on Regional HIV/AIDS Networks & preparation for the following year's activities

Expected Outputs:

- Presenters identified & prepared, session organized, report prepared & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The roundtable session on regional HIV/AIDS networks was held at the ICASA last December. Dr. Sambe Duale is working on pulling the presentations and summary recommendations into a document for dissemination.

2. Support & coordinate activities under the CRHCS/SARA Sub-Contract as the SARA focal point person

Expected Outputs:

- Quarterly report on the implementation of the Subcontract activities reviewed by SARA, finalized & disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

A detailed quarterly report on the activities under the CRHCS/SARA subcontract has been received from the secretariat. Activities are progressing well.

3. Support to the HIV/AIDS Coordinator at the CRHCS

Expected Outputs:

- Salary of the Coordinator provided
- Coordination & working trip reports

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA and REDSO continued the support for the position of Coordinator for HIV/AIDS Dr. Bannet Ndyabangi at the CRHCS. Bannet has shared coordination and working trip reports very efficiently and regularly.

4. Mobilization of ECSA Regional Multidisciplinary Task Force on HIV/AIDS

Expected Outputs:

- TOR for the Multi-disciplinary Task Force developed & approved
- Multi-disciplinary Task Force in ECSA constituted.
- Meeting of the MTF held & Priority Technical HIV/AIDS issues identified & activities initiated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

During March 2002, the CRHCS facilitated the meeting of national AIDS control managers from the ECSA member states who developed the TOR for the Regional Multidisciplinary Task Force on HIV/AIDS, and further decided to call it, “**HIV/AIDS Policy Advisory Committee**” to reflect the mandate of the CRHCS. The meeting constituted the **HIV/AIDS Policy Advisory Committee** and appointed the core members and disciplines to be represented, including mechanisms for appointing the members. The next meeting of the HIV/AIDS Policy Advisory Committee will be July 18-19, 2002, at Arusha.

5. Strengthen CERPOD capacity & involvement with M&E of HIV/AIDS programs in West Africa

Expected Outputs:

- HIV/AIDS point person hired by CERPOD; Action plan developed & implemented

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Caroline Blair visited CERPOD this quarter to review the status of activities in the SARA sub-contract. CERPOD has still not hired a person for the position of HIV/AIDS coordinator.

6. Strategic planning meeting & collaborative activities with WAHO on HIV/AIDS & Armed Forces of ECOWAS

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided for Joint strategic planning meeting & action plan development

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale provided input to WAHO on the planning of this activity. Tulane has finalized a memorandum of understanding with WAHO and a funding contract with the DOD Life Project for the organization of a consultative meeting for the development of a strategic framework for addressing HIV/AIDS in the Armed Forces of ECOWAS countries. The meeting is now scheduled for mid-April 2002 in Bamako, Mali.

7. Support to NAP+ Secretariat & programs

Expected Outputs:

- The training & evaluation workshop for Ambassadors of Hope program & mission completed
- Ambassadors of Hope toolkit produced
- Nutritional manual "Food for people living with HIV/AIDS" produced
- The emergence of new national networks of people living with HIV/AIDS, in particular in Ghana, Botswana, Cameroon & Kenya

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Alix Grubel of REDSO/ESA and Stephen Kinoti of SARA visited NAP+ in Nairobi and discussed the current status of the their subcontract with SARA and the work plan for FY 2002.

Although it has taken a while to streamline the management of this sub-contract, NAP+ is learning the AED/USAID procedures quickly and AED is learning and developing trust and understanding of NAP+. NAP+ plans to undertake the following activities in the FY 2002:

- Complete implementation of items in the FY2001 work plan that are outstanding, e.g., training of Francophone AOH and the secretariat staff will be undertaken this fiscal year, payment of volunteers and purchase of equipment.
- Maintain communication with the network members, including publication of newsletters and development of a communication strategy for NAP+ and its partners.
- In response to requests from Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique and Sudan, NAP+ will be implementing Advocacy Training for them in collaboration with CAFS.
- The network will be extending AOH activities to Gambia and Lesotho at the request of these countries.
- An inventory of AOH that have been trained and their contacts will be prepared and shared widely.
- NAP+ intends to conduct a fundraiser and has developed proposals for this that are being shared with partners.
- NAP+ is planning to develop a website targeted to NAPWA chapters.
- They will hold a regional delegates meeting during the Barcelona HIV/AIDS Conference. It is expected that UNAIDS will support participation by country delegates.

It was noted that not all activities listed here are included in the NAP+/SARA sub-contract; however, the Secretariat capacity building activities are aimed at strengthening the network's ability to undertake these activities.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: Improved Strategies & Models

1. Support development of Job-Aids for the management of Pediatric AIDS & associated illnesses in collaboration with RCQHC & the CRHCS

Expected Outputs:

- Job-Aids for the management of Pediatric AIDS & associated illnesses printed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

2. Support collection & documentation of tools & guidelines for OVC work

Expected Outputs:

- A data base of tools & guidelines developed by the CRHCS

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Renuka Bery and Stephen Kinoti worked closely with Bannet Ndyabangi and Adam Msilaji of CRHCS to finalize TORs and initiate work in Uganda and Zambia. It is expected that actual data and OVC guidelines and evaluation tools will be available in the next quarter.

3. Policy advocacy workshop to orient CRHCS professional staff & selected country representatives in policy advocacy

Expected Outputs:

- Country reps oriented in policy advocacy
- CRHCS staff oriented in policy advocacy

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

During the period January 21-25, 2002, Stephen Kinoti, attended the Policy Advocacy Training Workshop implemented jointly by CRHCS, REDSO, SARA and the Policy project in Kampala, Uganda. The objectives of the Workshop were to strengthen and harmonize policy advocacy approaches and skills, train CRHCS staff and country counterparts in advocacy, establish a sustainable health policy advocacy network across the ECSA countries, determine a method and plan for multiplying and replicating the enhanced skills of workshop participants, strategize on the way forward in health policy advocacy in ECSA, and produce a harmonized draft policy advocacy plan applicable across the region and adaptable for specific member states.

Outputs included participation by representatives from 12 member states, 9 CRHCS senior staff trained in health policy advocacy, an ECSA health policy advocacy network set up with the CRHCS serving as its secretariat, agreement on the need for further training, appointment of a focal point person in each country with whom the secretariat would coordinate activities, and a strategy to initiate HIV/AIDS policy advocacy as a first activity. Countries would form a multi-disciplinary team that would undertake a rapid inventory of existing policies and identify policy gaps in HIV/AIDS to provide evidence for the proposed follow up advocacy action.

Immediate next steps included:

- The Coordinator of the Human Resources and Capacity Building Program of CRHCS would prepare a policy assessment and monitoring tool and share it with partners for comments.
- The tool would be shared with member states that participated in the meeting through the focal points persons and subsequently adapted for the proposed policy monitoring activity.
- The country teams would then undertake the policy analysis and monitoring that would provide an inventory of existing HIV/AIDS policies, status of their translation into program actions and identify gaps at each stage. This would be implemented over a time frame of six months from the end of the workshop, i.e., between February and August 2002. USAID funds through SARA/CRHCS sub-contract will support this activity.

4. Support adaptation of Policy Monitoring tool & its use by regional networks

Expected Outputs:

- Guideline for Policy Analysis & monitoring developed, produced & disseminated
- Orientation of countries in Policy Monitoring
- Monitoring reports developed & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The CRHCS and SARA jointly developed and shared a draft monitoring tool. This tool will be adapted by country teams and subsequently used to monitor policies at national level and results reported to the DJCC and the conference of health ministers.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV

1. Finalize, translate, & disseminate issues papers on:

- HIV, nutrition during pregnancy & lactation
- Nutrition for HIV+ children

Expected Outputs:

- Issues papers finalized, translated, & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See SO 19 Nutrition , page 25 above, item 3.

2. Training for HIV/AIDS/PMCT in collaboration with RATN (SARA/Linkages)

Expected Outputs:

- Course content document
- Report of training activities

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Information was received that the LINKAGES/SARA bid for the PMCTC training proposal was not funded. Further collaboration on this activity will be as part of pre-service training in HIV/AIDS that is being planned by CRHCS with support from SARA and REDSO.

3. Technical assistance on MTCT, infant feeding options, & nutrition provided to African partners & HIV/AIDS programs

- TA to research projects (cost-share):
 - ZVITAMBO
 - ZEBS
 - Malawi
- TA to African Governments, WHO, UNICEF, UNAIDS, other agencies on selected issues

Expected Outputs:

- Technical support, expert advice provided
 - a) Research protocols approved
 - b) Research results published
 - c) Technical presentations given
 - d) Technical assistance to African Governments on policy issues related to HIV/MTCT/Nutrition

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

An abstract on the findings from the ZVITAMBO study was prepared and submitted to the Barcelona AIDS meeting (July 2002) this quarter. There will be a data analysis workshop to prepare for Barcelona and to determine other relevant study findings dissemination activities in May 2002 (in Harare).

Ellen Piwoz visited Zambia to provide additional training and to assess the infant feeding counseling and data collection activities in the Zambia Exclusive Breastfeeding Study (funded by Boston University/NIH) in January. The counseling on exclusive breastfeeding was proceeding well, but counselors need additional training on feeding infants after 6 months. In addition, it was determined that the study is not collecting adequate data to describe the challenges of early breastfeeding cessation and the feeding of children after 6 months of age (particularly among those who are no longer breastfeeding). After extensive discussion, the research team agreed to follow infants more closely between 6 and 9 months to ensure that no children were faltering after food supplementation provided by the study ceased. However, the researchers were not willing to collect additional data on infant feeding after 6 months. Dr. Piwoz has decided to discontinue her participation in this study because of differences of opinion on the importance of these data for policies and programs.

Dr. Piwoz traveled to Malawi twice this quarter to plan the formative research in the CDC-UNC Safe Mother/Safe Baby study, which will provide ARVs and nutrition support to HIV-infected mothers to reduce transmission during breastfeeding. The formative research tools were drafted and discussed with Malawian counterparts from UNC Project/PMTCT Program and the Bunda College of Agriculture. IRB approvals for the research have now been obtained from UNC, CDC, and Malawi. A multidisciplinary core team for this study has been established. The formative research tools are being translated into Chichewa and will be piloted in April. Training will be held in May 2002. Findings from the research are expected in July 2002. These activities are being supported by UNC/CDC (no SARA funding).

In addition to the above, Dr. Piwoz provided technical input into the protocol for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation-supported program to prevent MTCT in Lilongwe. This is also being carried out by the UNC Project.

Dorcas Lwanga was asked by CARE International in Atlanta to provide a technical presentation (February 2002) to their Health Unit on key studies and programmatic experience/recommendations related to HIV and Nutrition (both MTCT and nutrition care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS). Miss Lwanga also facilitated a discussion about related challenges on this issue.

4. Develop tools for:

- **Counseling about infant feeding options & risks (with WHO)**
- **Formative research on HIV/infant feeding issues (with WHO)**
- **Training health workers on nutrition & HIV (focus on women living with HIV/AIDS)**
- **Counseling on nutrition care & support**

Expected Outputs:

- Counseling tools drafted, discussed with WHO
- Formative research tools drafted, discussed with WHO
- PowerPoint presentations prepared, learning materials produced (with JHPIEGO/HRSA)
- Other counseling materials developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Tools for counseling HIV-positive mothers about infant feeding options were drafted by Liz Thomas of the PCS project and Ellen Piwoz and shared with WHO this quarter. Feedback was received at the end of March, and new versions will be produced for further discussion in April 2002. This activity is funded by WHO/Geneva.

Tools for formative research were also drafted by Dr. Piwoz and the UNC/Malawi Project team. Work is behind schedule in the preparation of a manual for WHO on HIV and infant feeding formative research

due to the demands of other projects. This manual will be drafted in April 2002.

A new version of the JHPIEGO ReproLearn tutorial was released in December 2001. The tutorial contains two modules on HIV and nutrition, which were prepared by SARA. These have been used extensively in Jamaica and other locations where the tutorials have been piloted.

Dorcas Lwanga was asked by FANTA to review and provide feedback on the French version of the FANTA nutrition care and support manual for people living with HIV/AIDS. Support on this is ongoing as the guide is currently being updated.

Dorcas Lwanga was asked in this quarter to prepare a presentation on nutrition care and support for a workshop on developing guidelines on nutrition care and support of PLWHA in Lusaka, Zambia, that will actually be taking place within the next quarter. During this quarter Dorcas has provided input and assistance in the preparations for the workshop.

5. Improve MTCT & nutrition training in Africa

- **Review Curricula on Pre-Service Settings**
- **Provide Technical Assistance to MTCT training activities institutions**

Expected Outputs:

- Chairpersons' workshop held

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No progress this quarter. Some elements of this will be undertaken during the Chairpersons pre-service workshop on HIV/AIDS in August 2002.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: Multi-Sectoral Initiatives

1. ECSAIDS Initiative: Helping Governments of ECSA Region Access Funds to Support HIV/AIDS & Related Health Programs: (Policy Project, MSH, SARA, CRHCS, REDSO, World Bank)

Expected Outputs:

- Joint consultations with partners & country level
- Strategy document.
- Activities & capacity to implement these activities developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA provided extensive comments to proposals developed by CRHCS and sent to the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, Malaria and TB.

The ECSAIDS team continued to communicate electronically to keep the idea alive.

2. USAID/AFR Strategy for Private Sector involvement in HIV/AIDS activities in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- SOW for a PVO work & African businesses
- Help Manage the Purchase order or Sub-contract

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The AFR/SD/HRD Private Sector Initiative to contribute to HIV/AIDS Efforts in Africa was initiated and a consultant, Percy Wilson, commissioned to develop:

- Strategy for mobilizing the US and African private sector in responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa.
- Detailed terms of reference for a Working Group in consultation with the selected multinational businesses and, where possible, some African businesses.
- Mechanisms for creating USAID/Private Sector-Working Groups in four countries in Africa in collaboration and agreement with relevant USAID Missions.
- Framework for collaboration between the international/US and African businesses.
- Plan for an orientation program for USAID missions, selected US private companies and local businesses in Africa.
- Plans to constitute joint public/private sector administrative and professional support teams and procedures at the country level to implement the above initiative.
- Monitoring and review system to extract lessons learned by country-level taskforces and mechanisms to share with other countries in specified key initiatives of prevention, mitigation, human resources management, stigma/discrimination, etc.
- Companies have developed HIV/AIDS workplace policies, and have increased resources and outreach programs to communities in each country.

3. Coordinate & facilitate the activities of the Regional Health Task Team/HEARD/ABT/CRHCS/AFR/SD/HRD for strengthening Health Systems

Expected Outputs:

- Final SOW produced
- Participation in the Task Team activities in two countries in ECSA

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Electronic and face-to-face consultation with HEARD Team and the Kwazulu Natal Province Team continued that facilitated start up of the assistance to the province in assessing the systemic needs for the province to develop adequate responses to the HIV/AIDS crisis.

4. Follow up on African Growth Opportunities Act (AGOA) Conference activities

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

5. Meeting on “HIV/AIDS as a Development Crisis: Lessons Learned & Next Steps”

Expected Outputs:

- Report produced on lessons learned & next steps

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The 2nd consultative meeting on “Rethinking of HIV/AIDS and Development” organized jointly between AFR/SD/HRD, HREARD and SARA was held at AED March 12-13, 2002. SARA staff, notably the information and publication team lead by Renuka Bery and HIV/AIDS Advisor Stephen Kinoti, contributed technical and organizational support. SARA is helping in the preparation of the consultation report.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: **Monitoring of HIV/AIDS Programs**

1. Policy Development & Monitoring in ECSA: Meeting to develop training & implementation plan

Expected Outputs:

- Policy monitoring training & implementation plan developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity was combined with the Policy Advocacy Training workshop that was held in Kampala during this period. Funds that were earmarked for this will be used for actual policy monitoring at country level. This is seen as a very good and efficient way to collaborate and maximize use of available resources.

2. Support initial country monitoring of Policies related to HIV/AIDS

Expected Outputs:

- Policy monitoring undertaken
- Status reports produced & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Draft policy monitoring tools have been developed. Monitoring activities at country level will be undertaken during the 3rd and 4th quarters of the FY.

3. Participation & Co-chair in the Joint planning , development of the HIV/AIDS New Indicators' Group activities

Expected Outputs:

- Proposed Indicators for capacity building component of the New Indicators
- Training Plan for Missions staff & selected country representatives

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The new indicators particularly addressing capacity building were incorporated into the overall set of indicators and review among partners initiated. Stephen Kinoti continued to serve as Co-Chair for this component while Joseph Deering of the Policy Project served as the other Co-Chair.

4. Assessment of the Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Health system in ECSA

Expected Outputs:

- SOW developed by the CRHCS
- Adaptation of the SOW by 2 selected countries
- Assessments undertaken in 2 countries & results disseminated & advocacy plans developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The SOW was developed by the CRHCS. Review and finalization of the tool will be undertaken during the next quarter in Arusha and plans finalized for the training of participating country representatives, initially from the two countries undertaken. Plans for the actual assessments will also be finalized then.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: Dissemination & Advocacy

1. Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV - Experiences & Next Steps: Report of a Workshop by Society of Women Against AIDS (SWAA)

Expected Outputs:

- Report finalized & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Awaiting the published report from SWAA.

2. The proceedings of the 8th international conference of the society of women against AIDS in Africa. Children & AIDS: Challenges & Strategies to Cope

Expected Outputs:

- Report finalized & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Awaiting the published report from SWAA.

3. The impact of HIV/AIDS on the Health Sector in Sub-Saharan Africa: The issue of human resources

Expected Outputs:

- Report finalized & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The report has been finalized and used at the World Bank and WHO consultation on Partnerships between Education and Health for Health, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, involving representatives from many countries in SSA. Plans for further dissemination are in progress.

4. The training workshop for Ambassadors of Hope program & mission

Expected Outputs:

- Report finalized & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Training of Francophone AOH is yet to be undertaken by NAP+.

5. The production of Nutritional manual "Food for people living with HIV/AIDS"

Expected Outputs:

- Report finalized & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

NAP+ is planning to undertake this activity later in the FY 2002.

6. The production of the Ambassadors of Hope toolkit

Expected Outputs:

- Report finalized & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Revision of the toolkit was continued during the quarter.

7. Publication & dissemination of:

- **Other Sectoral workshops**
- **Targeted dissemination of AIDS Briefs**
- **BP paper on prevention, care, & support**
- **Development of advocacy documents for MTCT (cf. nutrition)**
- **Assistance in producing HIV/AIDS success stories from field**
- **OVC & MTCT newsletters & other OVC documents**

Expected Outputs:

- Briefing packets collated
- Sectoral workshops organized

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA organized and hosted the 2nd Consultative Meeting on Rethinking HIV/AIDS and Development on March 12-13, 2002 (page 53 above, item #2, and elsewhere). Renuka Bery worked with Ishrat Husain of AFR/SD/HRD in planning and implementing this important meeting. Ms. Bery provided a draft report one week following the conference that is being revised along with a summary document and a letter to Administrator Natsios.

SARA consultant Millie Morton continued to work on finalizing a set of guidelines for USAID missions who would like to plan programs for OVCs. Over this quarter, the paper has expanded, thus, we expect that it will be completed sometime in the next quarter.

8. Development of Model for a Project-Based Learning Website Competition: Technical Assistance to USAID/Namibia in organizing a planning meeting for developing an HIV/AIDS website competition with secondary school students

Expected Outputs:

- Website activity started in Namibia, & explored with regional partners

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA prepared and sent information on background materials on HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, Namibia and website development to the USAID mission and its partners as they prepared to interest districts and schools in joining the competition.

9. Development, production & dissemination of multisectoral approaches report

Expected Outputs:

- Report developed, produced & dissemination

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Renuka Bery worked closely with Ishrat Husain to write a background document for the multisectoral AIDS consultative meeting described above. A draft was distributed at the meeting.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: Health Sector Reform & Health Care Financing Support to SO 21

1. Provide technical support to Regional AIDS Training Network (RATN) on aspects related to human resource management, financing & sustainability

Expected Outputs:

- Technical assistance provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Plans to support RATN in the implementation of an experts' meeting to review health management training needs were finalized and, subsequently, the meeting undertaken with SARA and HIRSA funding.

2. Provide technical support to ECSA/CRHCS & member-countries on how they can access the Global Fund for AIDS, TB & Malaria (w/ M&L Project)

Expected Outputs:

- Technical assistance provided
- Meetings held with stakeholders

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Original concept paper of ECSA/CRHCS has been revised, with extensive SARA comments, and the project proposal has been submitted to the Global Fund.

3. Provide technical support to African institutions & donor projects on how disbursements for HIV/AIDS projects can be improved

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo met with Bannet Ndyanabangi of CRHCS on this issue in February in Arusha. He also met with Shiyen Chao of the Uganda Multisectoral AIDS Project of the World Bank, which is facing disbursement delays since there is no local World Bank staff to manage the community contracts. Further meetings with AIDS/Africa are needed to sort out these problems, and how USAID can assist.

4. Participate, support, and/or supervise a study to estimate the non-drug costs of providing AIDS antiretroviral drugs in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter. Activity to be dropped.

5. Participate, support, and/or supervise a study to assess the cost-effectiveness of providing palliative care to people living with AIDS in Africa

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Activity to be dropped.

6. Provide technical support as needed to AFR/SD/HRD & African institutions on aspects related to costing, financing, cost-effectiveness, & sustainability of HIV/AIDS prevention, mitigation, & care programs

Expected Outputs:

- Technical assistance provided to AFR/SD/HRD, African institutions, & cooperating agencies
- Peer reviews provided to consultant reports

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

SO: Polio

Technical Area: Polio

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD in the implementation of their SO 24 portfolio

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

2. Support to WHO/AFRO dissemination & communications activities

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

SO: **Cross-cutting**

Technical Area: **Various areas – Monitoring and Evaluation Activities**

1. Technical support to AFR/SD/HRD in monitoring & evaluation activities with core groups

Expected Outputs:

- Monitoring & evaluation needs identified by core groups.
- Data Quality Assessment of AFR/SD/HRD's Population, Health, Nutrition, and Basic Education Indicators completed
- Evaluation & assessment efforts across AFR/SD/HRD portfolio supported as requested

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA has hired a consultant to assist with an assessment of the quality of AFR/SD/HRD Population, Health and Nutrition and Basic Education indicators used in the Annual Report. The consultant has initiated the assessment. Unfortunately, it has been hard to secured appointments with various AFR/SD/HRD results managers due to travel schedules and the USAID re-organization process.

2. a) Complete design and testing of activity database

Expected Outputs:

- Design completed
- Feedback from AFR/SD/HRD staff incorporated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity has been completed with the completion of the design last quarter, with feedback incorporated.

2.b) Complete inputting of FY 2001 data into activity database

Expected Outputs:

- Activity data for FY 2001 entered into database

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is completed.

2.c) Train AFR/SD/HRD staff in operation and maintenance of activity database

Expected Outputs:

- AFR/SD/HRD staff trained
- Guide for operating database produced

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The training of AFR/SD/HRD staff will take place in April 2002. Once that is accomplished, this activity will be completed. AFR/SD/HRD and SARA have decided that a full-blown guide is not necessary once the key staff member who will manage the database is trained.

3. Develop Impact Reviews for selected activities under SARA/SANA

Expected Outputs:

- Finalize the following:
 - Male Involvement (SO 20)
 - Integrated Nutrition Program (SO 19)
 - Early childhood care, survival, growth & development initiative (SO 20)
 - New impact review needs identified.
 - Arrow tool applied to selected activities

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No new SARA/SANA impact review was initiated this period. SARA has shared the impact review format with the BASICS Regional Team in West Africa for use in documenting lessons learned from selected BASICS activities funded by AFR/SD/HRD.

4. Finalize OIRH-PASA Impact Review

Expected Outputs:

- Impact review documents finalized, produced & disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The final report was produced and disseminated this quarter.

SO: Cross-cutting

Technical Area: Various areas

1. Finalization & dissemination of CERPOD self-evaluation guide

Expected Outputs:

- TA provided
- French version disseminated
- English version finalized, printed & dissemination

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The French version of the Self-Evaluation Guide was finalized last quarter, and the dissemination is well underway. SARA is working closely with JSI in distributing copies and identifying channels for dissemination. Copies of the guide have gone out to our colleagues at USAID/W, CERPOD, MSH/Haiti, and some other African organizations. Copies have also been distributed to a list of key contacts identified during our dissemination strategy meeting. MSH in Haiti wanted 50 copies. The English version is expected to be reviewed and laid out in the next quarter.

2. Support CESAG linkages with other institutions for dissemination & training in health management

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Suzanne Prysor-Jones had several conversations with Gilles Dussault at the World Bank Institute about possible collaboration on health management and health economics capacity building in West Africa. Oscar Picazo is planning to visit CESAG with Dr. Dussault next quarter to further assess CESAG capacities and potential for collaboration on priority AFR/SD/HRD issues. Mr. Picazo and Dr. Prysor-Jones met with Joseph Dwyer, Director of MSH's Management and Leadership Project to follow up on previous discussions held by Dr. Prysor-Jones with MSH staff with a view to re-establishing the close collaboration that had existed between MSH and the CESAG health management division. MSH is planning a visit to CESAG next quarter to pursue possible areas of collaboration.

3. Follow-up of dissemination of HSR training modules

Expected Outputs:

- Networking meetings held
- Materials translated & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Still awaiting word on the status of the revised HSR modules that are being produced by WHO Geneva.

<p>4. Strengthen selected Network of African Public Training Institutions (NAPHI) member institutions in the area of training, research & information sharing on management of disasters & CHE</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working group meeting organized • Action plan developed & implemented, including plan for resource mobilization <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>While in Kampala in February 2002 for the Work Bank Institute sponsored consultative meeting on the learning program on reproductive health in the context of health reforms, Dr. Sambe Duale met with Dr. Sebastian Baine, Dr. Orach Garimoi, and Mr. Raymond Wamalwa at the Makerere Institute of Public Health to discuss how to revitalize NAPHI. Dr. Baine is to get back to Dr. Duale with concrete next steps based on the February discussions.</p>
<p>5. Management & maintenance of the CERTI Website</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderation & quality assurance implemented; materials posted on website • Site maintained • Listserv expanded to include more field people <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>This activity is ongoing.</p>
<p>6. Support for strategic planning & institutional development of WAHO</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA provided to WAHO <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>SARA continued to provide inputs to WAHO on various key steps of the strategic plan development process. Dr. Sambe Duale might visit WAHO next quarter to advise on the finalization of strategic plan.</p>
<p>7. Technical support for the USAID West Africa Regional Program (WARP)</p> <p><i>Expected Outputs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA provided to WARP <p><i>Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:</i></p> <p>AFR/SD/HRD requested SARA to provide the technical services of Dr. Sambe Duale as a resource person to join a team of consultants to conduct the evaluation of the FHA/SFPS project. Dr. Duale participated in conference calls and electronic exchanges for the preparation of the evaluation. Dr. Duale will join the team for part of the field work in early April 2002.</p>

SO: Cross-cutting

Technical Area: Dissemination and advocacy

Result ia: Capacity to Advocate

1. Train other regional African institutions in advocacy (CRHCS – health professionals and senior staff)

Expected Outputs:

- Selected African institutions trained

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

CRHCS was trained in policy and advocacy in January of this quarter. See SO 21 section above, p. 59 item #3.

2. Provide the Advocacy Guide to groups to use it (African institutions, CAs etc.) on request

Expected Outputs:

- Advocacy Guide provided to selected groups

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The Advocacy Guide was distributed at the ERNWACA strategy meeting in Dakar in February. In addition, a Malian team is conducting an advocacy training with Momadou Konate from CERPOD and Brehima Tounkara from ERNWACA. A total of 252 guides were distributed this quarter.

3. Follow-up on & systematically assess the advocacy training to see whether & how the participants have used their skills

Expected Outputs:

- Follow-up completed;
- Recommendations made for future

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter, but we have been discussing this with RATN and hope that it might become part of their subcontract.

4. Identify & explore partnerships with existing advocacy groups (US-based & Africa-based)

Expected Outputs:

- Connections made with these groups (groups TBD)

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

Result 1b: Capacity to Disseminate Information

5. Assist CRHCS strengthen its info communication activities & staff, including providing monitoring & support to the IDCs

Expected Outputs:

- Program strengthened as needed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Renuka Bery and Antonia Wolff have been in closer contact with Adam Msilaji and Ominde Achola to discuss the progress and plans for communication activities this year. However, things are still moving slowly. After a conference call with CRHCS, it was agreed that they would document their current communications activities under the SARA project and propose a work plan for the next six months to a year. This should be finalized early in the next quarter.

In addition, SARA was asked to document experiences working with CRHCS and the IDCs for INASP in the UK. Ms. Bery prepared a case study with input from CRHCS and two IDC coordinators. She also clarified some follow-up questions that arose from the initial case study. This was presented at a conference in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and will be part of the conference proceedings.

6. Work with African institutions to build capacity in repackaging information. Possible activities include workshop, training, etc. through, e.g., CRHCS

Expected Outputs:

- Increased capacity of African institutions to repackage information

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA staff held a teleconference with CRHCS staff to assess the progress of the activities in the CRHCS Subcontract and to assess ways in which SARA staff could support CRHCS in their repackaging activities.

7. Assist African institutions in repackaging information on an as needed basis

- **CRHCS**
- **CERPOD**
- **Zambian groups**

Expected Outputs:

- Information repackaged

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Renuka Bery and Antonia Wolff responded to two participants from the Zambia workshop and provided qualitative feedback on the success stories they submitted for comment. Robert Clay said that he has received 6 success stories since the workshop ended in September.

Ms. Wolff prepared a presentation on organizational development presented to our African partner, ERNWACA to strengthen their organizational development.

8. Collaborate with other USAID Projects (e.g. BASICS, Horizons, Synergy, Measure, NGO networks, MSH) to improve their dissemination on priority AFR/SD/HRD issues on request

Expected Outputs:

- Dissemination of priority issues improved for selected projects

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Antonia Wolff met with MNH partners to help them devise a dissemination strategy for the maternal and neo-natal health materials they have developed. SARA provided the French translation of an AFR/SD/HRD-supported brief and then included that brief in the Reproductive Health Portfolio package.

Ms. Wolff also worked with Family Health International to help them devise a dissemination strategy for their Female Condoms briefing packets.

Renuka Bery gave a presentation at Society for International Development's Development Information Working Group on SARA's experience and strategy in training African participants to strengthen dissemination and to learn repackaging skills. This was very well received and several people at different organizations requested copies of the PowerPoint presentation. Antonia also presentation SARA's activities and materials on Reproductive Health at the Leadership Workshop for representatives from the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) held in Atlanta, Georgia.

9. Collaborate with other African Institutions (e.g., RATN, RESAR, CESAG, WHO/AFRO, Makerere, AMREF, HST, FAWE, NARESA, ERNESA) to improve their dissemination on priority AFR/SD/HRD issues

Expected Outputs:

- Dissemination of priority issues improved for selected institutions

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

ACI and SARA staff are collaborating with CERPOD on various contractual issues, and have helped develop a job description and a workplan for CERPOD's new HIV/AIDS coordinator. Also, ACI is helping CERPOD to devise two brochures.

10. Develop series of Dissemination Briefs to assist projects & African institutions in developing & carrying out a dissemination strategy

Expected Outputs:

- Dissemination briefs developed
- Dissemination strategy developed & implemented

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

Result ic: Capacity to Communicate Electronically

11. Link African institution personnel to e-communication opportunities

- MOH ministers in ECSA region through CRHCS

Expected Outputs:

- Selected personnel linked to opportunities

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Provided CRHCS with useful website links for information on the development of a website, creating a unique design for a website and implementing online forums for the CRHCS website development project.

12. Development of Model for a Project-Based Learning Website Competition: Technical Assistance to USAID/Namibia in organizing a planning meeting for developing an HIV/AIDS website competition with secondary school students

Expected Outputs:

- Website activity started in Namibia, & explored with regional partners

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

As mentioned above, SARA provided resources available electronically on content issues (HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, youth, as well as some samples of interesting web sites/styles, interactive web designs, etc. this quarter.)

Result iia: Materials Development and Production

13. Design and package information in appropriate formats (books, syntheses, executive summaries, e-notes, policy briefs/brochures, tools). Current documents in production include:

- Policy manual for CRHCS
- Self-evaluation Manual (English and French)
- Manual on Qualitative Manuals (French version)
- Indicators, Vol. II

Expected Outputs:

- Selected information designed and packaged

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

These three documents were finalized this quarter. The policy manual, as described above, was copy-edited and sent to CRHCS to produce as deemed appropriate, following its use at the policy advocacy workshop in Uganda in January. The French Self-Evaluation Guide was produced and is starting to be disseminated. The English version is being finalized and translated. The Manual on Qualitative manuals has been produced and disseminated in French.

14. Dissemination of key cross-cutting products as requested, e.g.:

- Empowering Communities
- Qualitative Manual

Expected Outputs:

- Products disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is ongoing and is dependent upon requests. This quarter, 59 requests were filled, totaling 126 products disseminated.

15. Assessments of use of AFR/SD/HRD-SARA products (4 documents)

- **Research Guide**
- **Malaria document**

Expected Outputs:

- Use of documents assessed & presentation given

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This quarter, SARA staff sent out over 50 questionnaires to recipients of the Research Guide. Because the response was low, SARA staff has begun to collect e-mail addresses, and plans to send out the questionnaire via email in the next quarter.

Result iib: Dissemination Channels**16. Mail documents to targeted mailing list*****Expected Outputs:***

- Documents mailed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

3633 documents were distributed this quarter.

17. Explore new opportunities to disseminate more information electronically, through e-mail, Internet, etc., especially through e-mail groups***Expected Outputs:***

- E-mail lists
- Fewer documents mailed
- Increased number of documents on Internet
- Increased number of hits

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This quarter, the team developed a website to register participants for the Multisectoral HIV/AIDS meeting and to host the presentations, background documents and reports that were distributed at the meeting. It has been a very cost-effective way to ensure that all the participants and other interested individuals have access to the materials.

A flyer on SARA publication 'A Self-Evaluation Guide' was posted on the Routine Health Information Network list serve.

The quarterly publication list was disseminated to over 225 recipients by e-mail, on schedule.

18. Website maintenance + publications updates

Expected Outputs:

- Website redesigned

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This quarter, SARA updated its website with direct links to all electronically available publications from both SARA and USAID, AFR/SD/HRD. New statistical tools have been implemented to begin tracking the dissemination of electronic publications. Online forms have been installed as a cost-effective way to search online publications.

19. Update SARA website

Expected Outputs:

- SARA web page online

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

New statistical tools have been implemented in order to more effectively track and converse with the visitors and organizations interested in the SARA project. Online forms have been installed as a cost-effective way to register meeting participants and handle website feedback. Java has been used to manage news and information for visitors. The website has been redeveloped to support advanced features and cleaner graphics, with the core focus of being able to work with slower computers and internet connections around the world.

20. Promote information through various listservs (AFRONETS, ReproHlth, WB, AHILANet)

Expected Outputs:

- Information promoted

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This is an ongoing process and will be acted upon in the coming months. Currently, the website and electronic information is easily accessible and most often accessed from google.com providing 20% of our visitors and yahoo.com providing 8% of our visitors. However, the majority of our visitors (49%) are direct links.

21. Develop an electronic conference (with some SO Team)

Expected Outputs:

- Electronic conference developed with selected team

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Began the formation of a listserv with AED For the deployment of an electronic conference; however, the listserv has not yet been started.

22. Develop and send via e-mail quarterly announcement of AFR/SD/HRD publications/products

Expected Outputs:

- Broadcast e-mail sent quarterly

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Quarterly publications list was distributed as planned this quarter.

23. Explore new activities such as CD-ROMS and listservs. Assess whether SARA should put something together for a CD-ROM (SFPS materials, Nutrition Center AED)

Expected Outputs:

- New activities of this nature identified, including whether SARA should do CD-ROM
- AFRO-NETS-like listserv for education identified if one exists

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Antonia Wolff has begun preliminary discussions on putting together CD-ROMs for the SO19, the Lab Manuals, and putting the RH publications on a CD-ROM. In connection with SFPS, the SARA Project will be producing a CD-ROM on SPFS and SARA tools and approaches. These CD-ROMs will be produced within the next two quarters.

Result iic: User Needs

24. Analyze tracking information on major SARA publications

Expected Outputs:

- Information analyzed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This information is available for most publications on request. Further information will be available with the implementation and use of new statistical tools on the SARA website.

25. Develop improved ways to communicate with missions; e.g., semi-annual summary report of AFR/SD/HRD activities every 6 months, elicit mission input into how AFR/SD/HRD can help them with dissemination, communication, etc.

Expected Outputs:

- Information compiled, written and shared with missions

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The quarterly publication list is one mechanism to update missions on recent AFR/SD/HRD publications. This list is disseminated to all mission directors, PHN officers, desk officers, and USAID/G. In addition, any SARA traveler will contact the mission giving clearance and offer to debrief the HPN officers. This is also recorded in the trip reports. These missions also get copies of the trip report.

Result 3: Dissemination and Advocacy Activities Incorporated into AFR/SD/HRD SOs

26. Provide TA to all AFR/SD/HRD teams to ensure that RPs have dissemination & advocacy built into activities [RENU, ANTONIA]

Expected Outputs:

- TA given & dissemination & advocacy activities reviewed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Work is on-going in this area. Antonia Wolff and Renuka Bery have continued to attend core group meetings and to work with AFR/SD/HRD staff to ensure that dissemination is included in various strategies and that it is appropriate. For example, this quarter, Ms. Bery worked with Yolande Miller-Grandvaux to design a repackaged version of the NGO study that would compel policymakers and mission staff to read the findings and lessons learned. This will be available at the end of the next quarter. Ms. Wolff has worked closely with the reproductive health team and ID/malaria to ensure that pertinent material is disseminated properly.

27. SO Team Core Group Dissemination Activities (cross-referenced)

SO18- Education

ERNWACA Transnational Study Document

Expected Outputs:

- Document produced and disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See information under SO 18 above.

SO19- Malaria/TB/Infectious Diseases

Production, translation, and printing of Malaria docs

Expected Outputs:

- Per Table

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See information under SO 19 above.

SO 19 – Immunization

EPI reports

Lessons learned paper on grant to UNICEF and WHO for 4 countries

Advocacy activities for EPI using African institutions (e.g., CRHCS or others)

Expected Outputs:

- Publications produced and disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See information under SO 19 above.

SO19- Nutrition/child survival

HIV and Breastfeeding Promotion review

Paper on Sources and effectiveness of care for Childhood illness in Africa

Maximizing the potential of private practitioners in child survival

Expected Outputs:

- HIV and nutrition paper produced and printed
- Papers printed and disseminated. Likely co-funded with SANA and other projects.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See information under SO 19 above.

SO 20-Population and Reproductive Health

Guidance given to CA partners on dissemination and advocacy as related to documentation of projects, etc.

SFPS pamphlet

MNH resource package

Expected Outputs:

- TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See information under SO 20 above.

SO 21-HIV/AIDS

Other sectoral workshops

Targeted dissemination of AIDS Briefs

BP paper on prevention, care and support

Development of advocacy documents for MTCT (cf. Nutrition)

Assistance in producing HIV/AIDS success stories from field

Dissemination from Religious Leaders conference

OVC & MTCT newsletters & other OVC documents

Expected Outputs:

- Briefing packets collated
- Sectoral workshops organized

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See information under SO 21 above.

SO 24 - Polio Eradication

Continue assisting WHO/AFRO on dissemination and Advocacy

Finalize, print and disseminate:

Laboratory manual in French

Paper on health interventions in transition countries (cross-cutting area)

Expected Outputs:

- Document produced and disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See information under SO 24 Polio above.